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A. 2172

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Noriyuki YOKOSHI

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Title:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANAGING STATE OF

**EXTERNAL APPARATUS** 

RECEIVED

Examiner:

Cam Y.T. Truong

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Group Art Unit:

2172

Technology Center 2100

September 27, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the first Office Action dated June 28, 2004, please consider the

following remarks:

Any fee due with this paper may be Charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290 Filed by Express Mail \_

Receipt No. 6297103742945

pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10.

Patricia Muir